



# CHARTER AMENDMENT

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

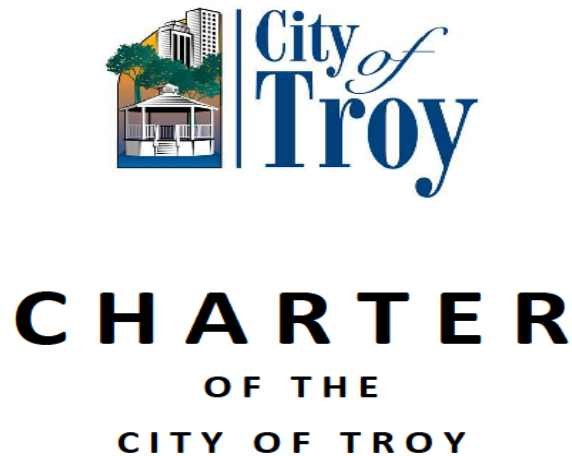
# WHAT IS THE BALLOT QUESTION?

The City has received a citizen initiated proposal to amend the Troy City Charter by adding a new section.

“Section 12.4 The city shall not enter into an agreement for the transfer, sale, lease, or use for more than 90 days, of any portion of any parcel of public land the whole of which is greater than two (2) acres, except by the affirmative vote of a majority of the electors voting on the question at a general election.”

Shall this Section be added? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

# BALLOT PROPOSAL CHANGES



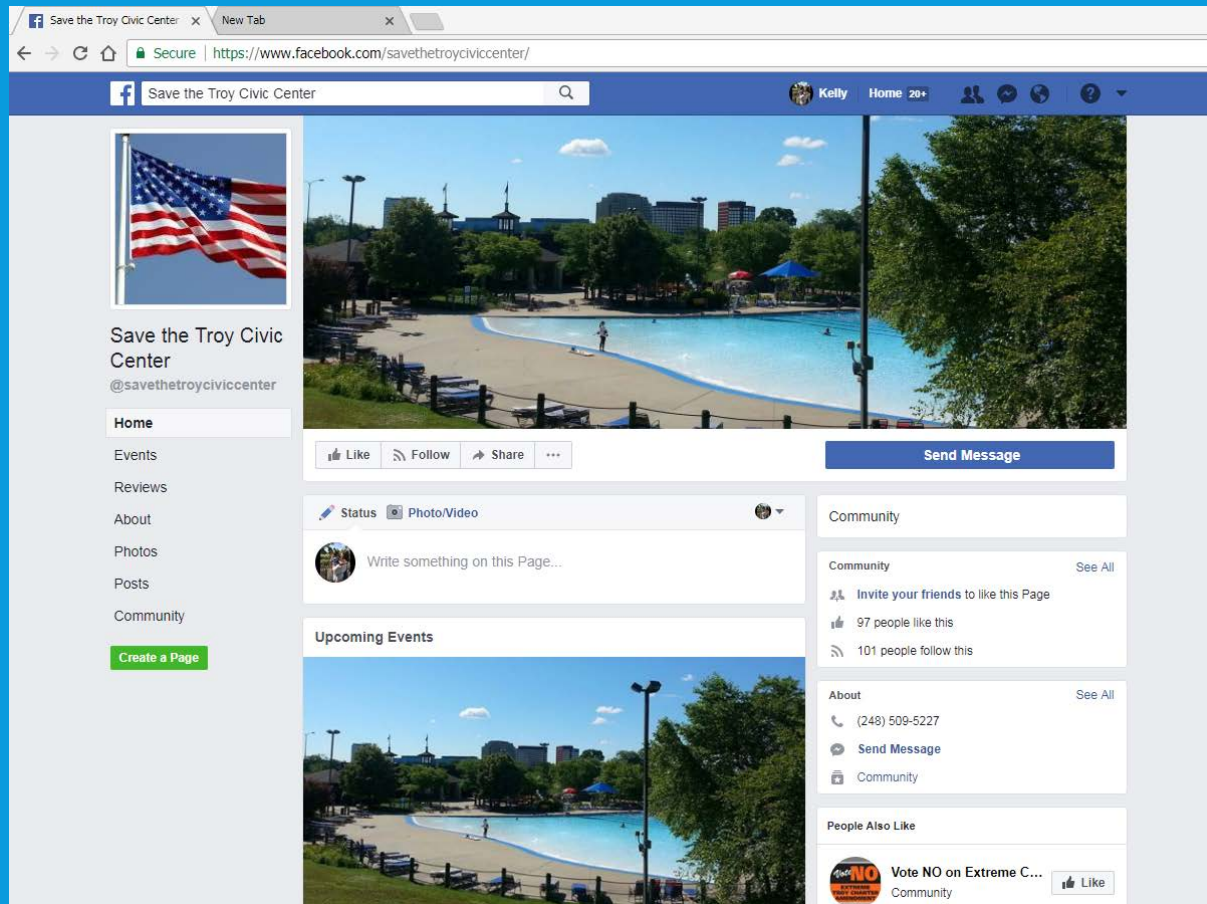
- Proposed Charter amendment
- Limited amendments since 1955
- Most recent citizen initiated petition in 2008
- If amended, can't change without a vote at a future election

PREAMBLE  
We, the people of the City of Troy, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, pursuant to the authority granted in the Constitution and Public Act 279 of 1909 of the State of Michigan, as amended, do hereby ordain and establish this Home Rule Charter for the City of Troy.

# INITIATORY PETITIONS

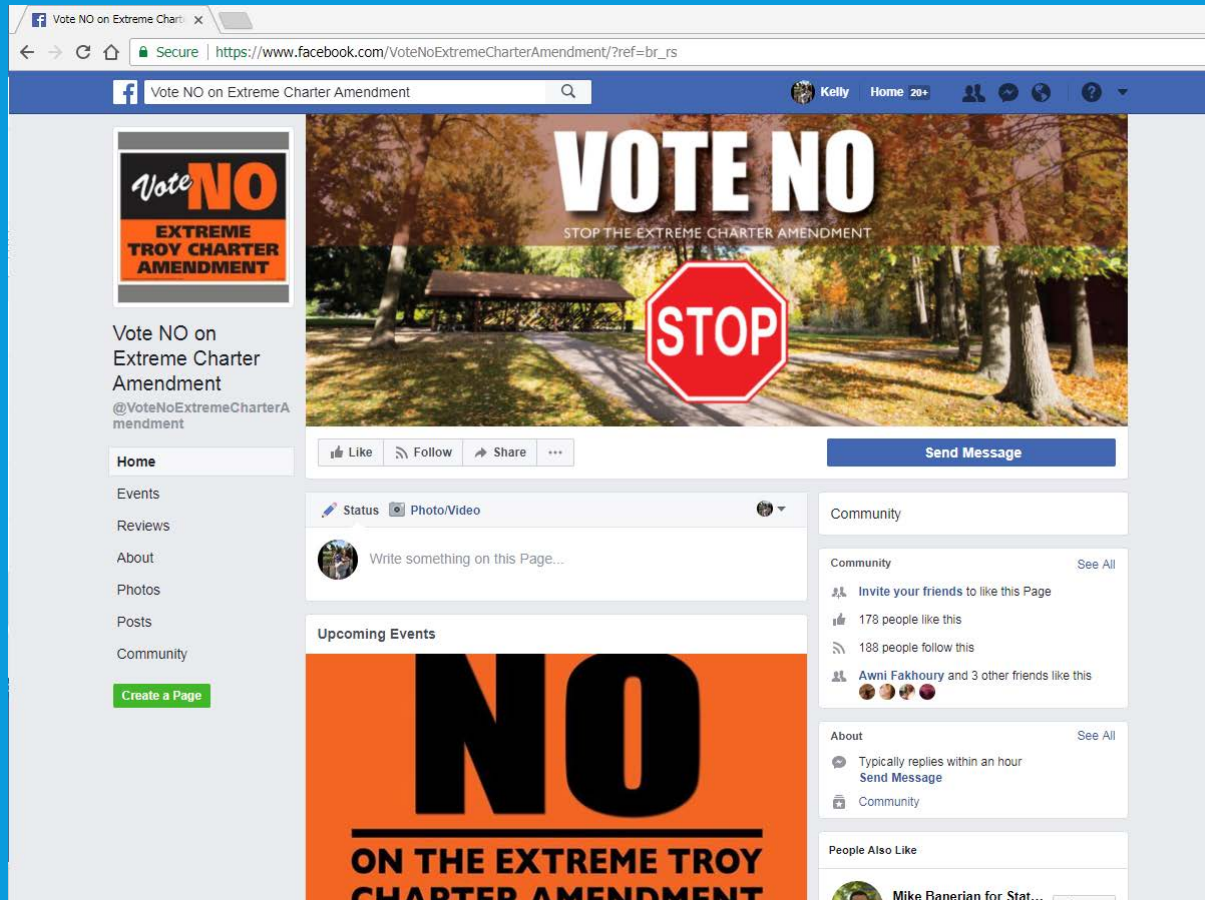
- Citizen initiated- must be placed on ballot if procedure met
- 2,920 required petition signatures out of 58,328 registered voters in Troy
- Council limited to providing educational materials.
- Estimated cost of mailing:
  - Bulk Mail:  $28,500 \text{ households} \times \$0.167/\text{mail} = \$4,759$
  - First Class:  $28,500 \text{ households} \times \$0.50/\text{mail} = \$14,250$

# WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BALLOT QUESTION?



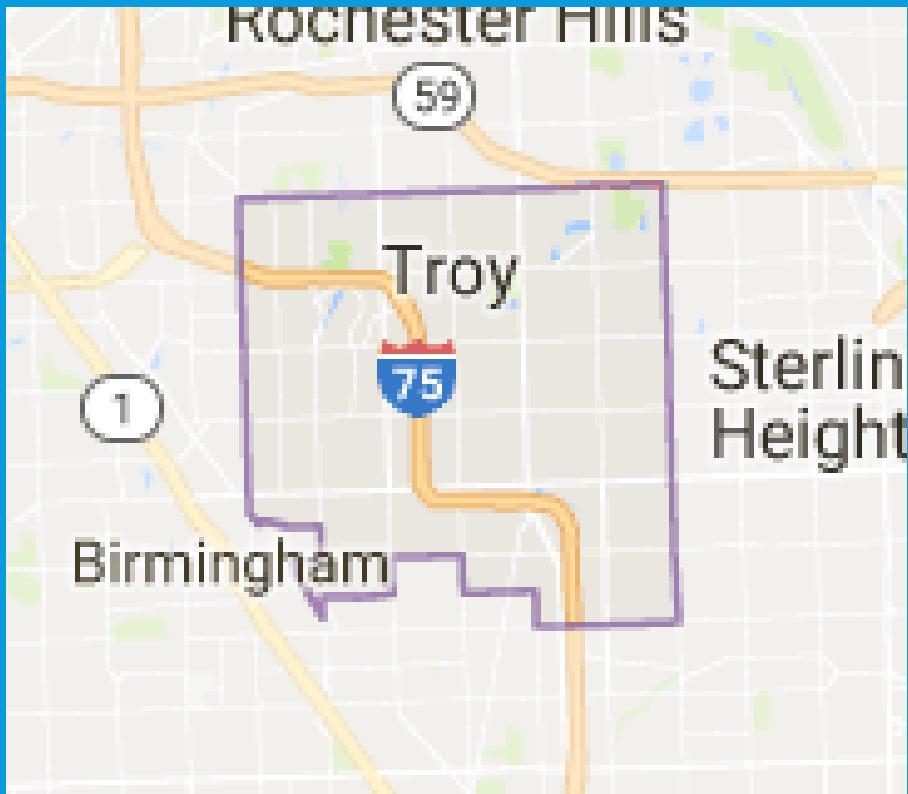
“Save the Troy Civic Center” is a newly created campaign committee in support of the proposed charter amendment.

# IS THERE ORGANIZED OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED BALLOT QUESTION?



A campaign committee called "Stop the Extreme Charter Amendment" was created in September 2017.

# IS THIS PROPOSAL LIMITED TO THE TROY CIVIC CENTER PROPERTY?



NO.

This proposed Charter amendment language covers acres of City owned property and impacts City facilities throughout Troy



# DOES THE CHARTER NEED TO BE AMENDED TO PROTECT CITY PARKS?



NO.

The City Charter already requires voter approval to sell or lease any City park (City Charter, Section 12.1).



# THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT USES THE TERM "GENERAL ELECTION". WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?



Annual November election only

# WHAT HAPPENS IF A COVERED CITY AGREEMENT EXPIRES BEFORE THE FIRST AVAILABLE NOVEMBER ELECTION ?



The proposed Charter amendment does not address this situation.

# WHAT TYPES OF AGREEMENTS WOULD REQUIRE VOTER APPROVAL IF THE CHARTER AMENDMENT PASSES?



## Over 200 Agreements

Youth Programs

Senior Programs

Fitness Programs

Billy Casper Golf

Troy Historical Society

Troy Nature Society

Friends of Troy Library

52-4 District Court

# WOULD THIS PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT APPLY TO EXISTING AND NEW AGREEMENTS?



YES.

Existing Agreements will continue until expiration

Any renewal of an existing agreement will require approval in a November election (e.g. Troy Historical Society and Troy Baseball Boosters)

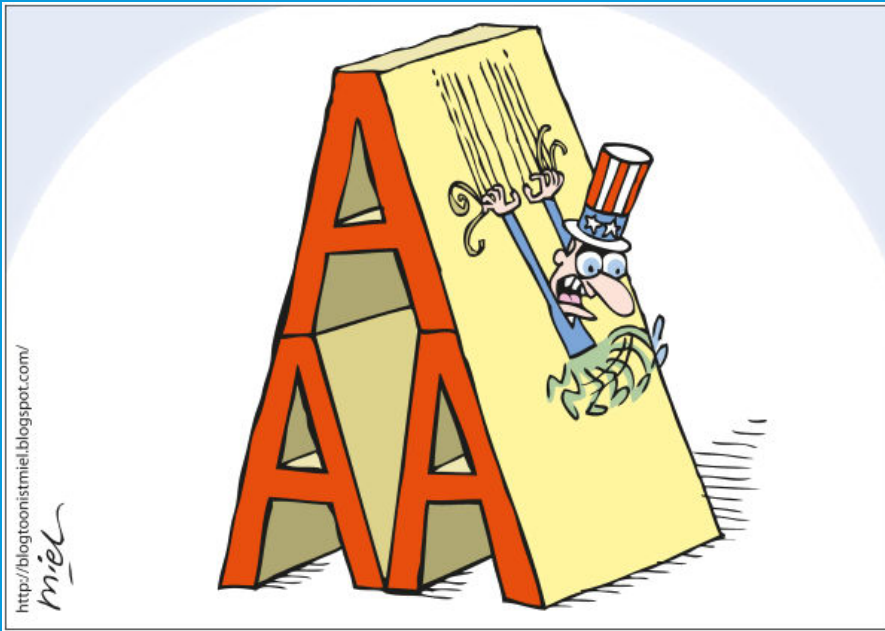
# COULD THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT AFFECT TROY'S AAA BOND RATING?

YES.

Restricts City's ability to operate efficiently

May result in loss of contract revenue

2008 charter amendment  
(millage cap) impact on the AAA  
bond rating



# DO THE VOTERS CURRENTLY HAVE THE ABILITY TO STOP A LEASE OR LONG TERM USE AGREEMENT OF CITY PROPERTY, SUCH AS THE CIVIC CENTER CAMPUS?



YES.

2005 referendum Charter amendment (Section 12.3 of the Troy Charter).

Rental, lease, or long term use over 3 years can be terminated by a vote of the people



# CAN THE CITY ENTER INTO LONG TERM AGREEMENTS TO MINIMIZE THE FREQUENCY OR NUMBER OF BALLOT QUESTIONS TO APPROVE AGREEMENTS?

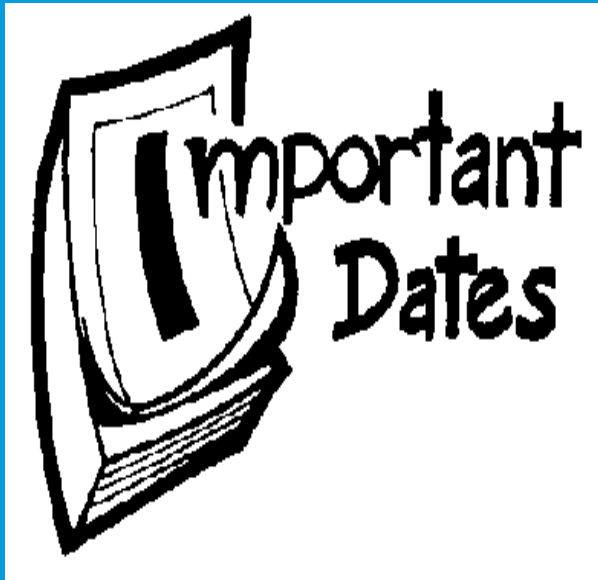


Requires both parties to re-negotiate terms

Bid process may be required

Would require termination without cause

# WHAT IS THE TIMELINE OF THIS PROPOSAL?



July 7, 2017- Circulation starts

July 10, 2017- City Council public comment suggesting Council create a town center ballot question

July 24, 2017- City Council meeting with discussion and memo with a partial listing of affected agreements

July 31, 2017- Petitions submitted

# WHAT ARE CITY COUNCIL'S OPTIONS IF THIS PROPOSAL PASSES?



- Prepare ballot questions for each November ballot
- File a declaratory action lawsuit to supersede the new Charter provision